

REMARKS/ARGUMENT

Original patent claims 1-26, 28-65, 75 and 76, and new claims 77-284 are now pending. Claims 66-74 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 3, 4, 6, 7, 9, 12, 14-15, 18, 20, 21, 23, 26, 30-32, 35, 41, 43, 46, 52-58, 60-65, and 75 have been amended. Support for the amendments and the new claims are found in the original patent as set forth in attached Appendix A.

In view of the foregoing, favorable consideration and allowance of this application are respectfully solicited.

EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as Express Mail Label No. EV343678101us in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on September 22, 2003:

Lawrence A Hoffman

Name of applicant, assignee or
Registered Representative

Lawrence A Hoffman
Signature

September 22, 2003

Date of Signature

LAH:sks

Respectfully submitted,

Lawrence A Hoffman
Lawrence A Hoffman

Registration No.: 22,436

OSTROLENK, FABER, GERB & SOFFEN, LLP

1180 Avenue of the Americas

New York, New York 10036-8403

Telephone: (212) 382-0700